DRAFT TRAWL CATCH SHARE, GEAR SWITCHING ALTERNATIVES AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW

Presentations and other materials regarding the gear switching range of alternatives adopted by the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) at its September 2021 meeting are being posted to the Gear Switching and Trawl Allocation Attainment Committee Webpage on the Council website. At its September 2021 meeting, the Council adopted motions creating a range of gear switching alternatives for analysis. At that time, the plan was for the Council to receive an update from staff at the November 2021 Council meeting, to advise the Council on any issues that need to be addressed before the alternatives can be fully analyzed. Subsequently, the issue was deferred to the June 2022 meeting with the idea that over the winter, staff would review the alternatives and provide reports to assist in planning for the June 2022 Council meeting. Under workload planning at this meeting, the Council will be deciding the amount of Council floor time, potentially for June 2022, needed to complete work on these alternatives.

After reviewing the alternatives, staff identified a number of substantial questions that need to be addressed before moving to a full analysis of the alternatives. None of the concerns are fatal to either of the alternatives but they do need to be addressed before proceeding with a full analysis. A description of the alternatives and two presentations are being posted on the above listed webpage. The presentations provide 1) an overview of the alternatives, and 2) an explanation of the more complex issues that need to be addressed.